

Sustainable Development Law & Policy

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Article 1

Editor's Note

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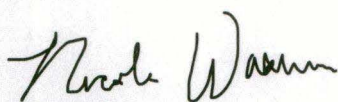
EDITORS' NOTE

The *Sustainable Development Law & Policy Brief (SDLP)* strives to address and analyze cutting-edge legal issues developing within the fields of environmental law and sustainable development. For the last nineteen years, *SDLP* has examined the tension between the private sector, often blamed for environmental degradation, and the public sector, which is often viewed as having the more environmentally-friendly interests.

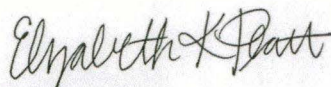
The judicial system frequently undertakes the role of resolving these conflicts between the private and public sectors. This issue of *SDLP* examines the evolving disputes over which courts preside and the solutions that result. From federal appellate courts employing varying approaches to hazardous waste remediation to a rapidly changing Supreme Court, it is clear that the future of environmental concerns will be decided by the judiciary. These judicial decisions highlight varying paradigms for protecting both natural resources and human populations from environmental harms. The issue further highlights potential conflicts that may arise in our ever-changing society on topics ranging from Artificial Intelligence to plastic microbead regulation. Further, how courts construe statutory rights, such as citizen suit provisions, has the potential to pave the way for a new era of jurisprudence.

On behalf of the *Sustainable Development Law & Policy Brief*, we would like to thank the contributing authors for their time and insight that made this publication possible. We would also like to thank our staff and editorial board for their hard work and dedication to *SDLP*. Additionally, we would like to thank our faculty advisors, without whom we would not have the opportunity to share our views on the future of environmental law through *SDLP*. Lastly, we would like to thank our readers for their continuing interest and support over the last nineteen years.

Sincerely,



Nicole Waxman
Editor-in-Chief



Elizabeth Platt
Editor-in-Chief

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ABOUT SDLP

The Sustainable Development Law & Policy Brief (ISSN 1552-3721) is a student-run initiative at American University Washington College of Law that is published twice each academic year. The *Brief* embraces an interdisciplinary focus to provide a broad view of current legal, political, and social developments. It was founded to provide a forum for those interested in promoting sustainable economic development, conservation, environmental justice, and biodiversity throughout the world.

Because our publication focuses on reconciling the tensions found within our ecosystem, it spans a broad range of environmental issues such as sustainable development; trade; renewable energy; environmental justice; air, water, and noise regulation; climate change; land use, conservation, and property rights; resource use and regulation; and animal protection.

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To purchase back issues please contact William S. Hein & Co. at hol@wshein.com. To view current and past issues of the publication please visit our website at <http://www.wcl.american.edu/org/sdlp>. Current and past issues are also available online through HeinOnline, LexisNexis, Westlaw, vLex, and the H.W. Wilson Company. Please note that Volume I and Volume II, Issue 1 are published as *International and Comparative Environmental Law*.

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